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RCE/2881

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/163,402
Filing Date	September 30, 1998
First Named Inventor	Naoto SANO
Group Art Unit	2881
Examiner Name	L. Scott, Jr.
Attorney Docket Number	684.2745

#21/RCE
11/29/02
V/S

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 740.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Steven E. Warner	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,326
Signature	<i>Steven E. Warner</i>	Date	October 3, 2001

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01 FC:179

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In re Application of:

Naoto SANO, et al.

Application No.: 09/163,402

Filed: September 30, 1998

For: GAS LASER DEVICE AND EXPOSURE
APPARATUS USING THE SAME

Docket No.: 684.2745

Examiner: L. Scott, Jr.

Group Art Unit: 2881

Date: October 3, 2001

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ Additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	52	MINUS	26	= 26	x \$9 \$18	\$ 468.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	6	MINUS	3	= 3	x \$40 \$84	\$ 252.00
Fee for Multiple Dependent claims \$135°/\$270						
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT---						\$ 720.00

☐ °Verified Statement claiming small entity status is enclosed, if not filed previously.

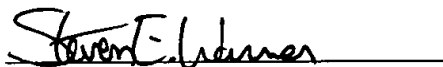
☒ A check in the amount of \$ 720.00 is enclosed.

☐ Charge \$___ to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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- ☒ Any prior general authorization to charge an issue fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.18 to Deposit Account No. 06-1205 is hereby revoked. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$____ to cover the fee for a ____ month extension is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$____ to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee is enclosed.
- ☒ Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Steven E. Warner
Registration No. 33,326

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30 Rockefeller Plaza
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SEW\cmv

684.2745



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Naoto SANO, et al.) Examiner: L. Scott, Jr.
Appln. No.: 09/163,402) Group Art Unit: 2881
Filed: September 30, 1998)
For: GAS LASER DEVICE AND) October 3, 2001
EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING)
THE SAME)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, Applicants request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add New Claims 21-46 as follows. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. A gas laser device, comprising:
- a chamber for sealingly storing a laser gas therein;
 - a discharging electrode for exciting the laser gas through electrical discharging;
 - a total reflection mirror for totally reflecting laser light produced by the electrical

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